

For Immediate Release

HKIFF47 NAMES FIREBIRD JURY

17 March 2023 (Hong Kong) – The 47th Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF47) is proud to have a glittering jury line-up for its Firebird Awards competition, renowned for recognising emerging cinematic talents and celebrating the most exciting, innovative new films, including documentaries and short films.

Tasked with selecting 12 winners for this year's competition, four independent jury panels will evaluate 42 short-listed films in four sections based on their creativity, technical skills, and artistry. HKIFF47 will announce the results in the Awards Gala at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre on 9 April.

Three notable filmmakers – two directors and a film editor – will adjudicate Firebird Awards' Young Cinema Competition for Chinese language films, now entering its fifth year. **Hsu Hsiao-Ming** is renowned for his directorial debut, *Dust of Angels*, which closed the Director's Fortnight at the Cannes Film Festival in 1992. **Zhang Lu**, the director of *Grain in Ear* (2005) and *Gyeongju* (2014), has recently competed in Berlinale with *The Shadowless Tower*, one of the many highlights of HKIFF47. Paris-based **Mary Stephen** is best known as the film editor for French New Wave auteur Eric Rohmer for over 20 years.

The jury panel for the Firebird Award Young Cinema Competition for World Cinema will consist of three distinguished industry professionals. On board is **Ann Hui**, the first-ever female director to receive the Golden Lion Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2020 Venice Film Festival, whose latest lyrical documentary, *Elegies*, will be one of HKIFF47's two opening films. Joining Hui on the panel are French film critic **Emmanuel Burdeau**, a former editor-in-chief for *Cahiers du Cinema*, and Hong Kong-based film critic and programmer **Clarence Tsui**.

British director and producer **Malcolm Clarke**, an Academy & Emmy Awards winner, is on the panel to choose the winners of a Firebird Award and a Jury Prize in the Documentary Competition. Hong Kong-based German documentary filmmaker **Uli**

Page 1 of 3

The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited
香港國際電影節協會有限公司

Unit B, 3rd Floor, Block B, Wing Hong Factory Building, 777-783 Yu Chau West Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong
香港九龍汝州西街777-783號永康工廠大廈B座3樓B室
Tel +852 2970 3300 Fax +852 2970 3011 Website www.hkiff.org.hk

Gaulke and Chinese director and contemporary artist **Qiu Jiongjiong**, whose first fiction feature, *A New Old Play* (2021), won HKIFF46's Young Cinema (Chinese Language) Firebird Award and the FIPRESCI Prize, will join Clarke on the panel.

Entrusted with the responsibility of selecting two notable works from 18 contestants in the Short Film Competition are three pre-eminent jury members: local writer-director **Jun Li**, acclaimed for his award-winning *Drifting* (2021); veteran film executive **Esther Yeung**; and **Ariel Esteban Cayer**, a Montreal-born writer and programmer based in Hong Kong.

The Firebird Awards Competition is part of the hybrid HKIFF47, which will take place from 30 March to 10 April featuring screenings and audience-engagement events in theatres and online. The complete programme and screening schedule are now available through HKIFF's official website (www.hkiff.org.hk). The public can purchase tickets through the official website and URBTIX.

To download more information:

<https://usercontent.hkiff.org.hk/Press/HKIFF47>

Media Enquiry

Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF)

Gaby Choi

Tel: +852-2102-7382 | 9689-2060

Email: gaby_choi@hkiff.org.hk

Kevin Chiu

Tel: +852-2102-7383 | 9787-0905

Email: kevin_chiu@hkiff.org.hk

Strategic Public Relations Group (SPRG)

Andico Tsui

Tel: +852-2114-4346 | 6902-3831

Email: andico.tsui@sprg.com.hk

Veronica Li

Tel: +852-2114-4945 | 9414-2862

Email: veronica.li@sprg.com.hk

About The Hong Kong International Film Festival

The Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF) is one of Hong Kong's most significant cultural events annually. It is Asia's longest-running platform for filmmakers, film professionals, and filmgoers worldwide to launch new work and experience outstanding films. HKIFF introduces world cinema to local audiences to enrich and deepen the understanding of Hong Kong

moviegoers. Committed to discovering new talent, HKIFF premieres the breadth of Chinese cinema and showcases Asian talent. Festival-goers can enjoy world-class films, attend seminars hosted by leading filmmakers worldwide, visit film exhibitions, participate in receptions and parties, and more. HKIFF draws extensive coverage from the local and international media and has grown in importance as one of the premier platforms for launching films in Asia.

About The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited

The Hong Kong International Film Festival Society Limited (HKIFFS) is a charitable, non-profit and non-governmental organisation dedicated to discovering and promoting creativity in film art and culture. It organises the annual Hong Kong International Film Festival (HKIFF) and the Hong Kong - Asia Film Financing Forum (HAF). Another highlight is the Cine Fan Summer International Film Festival (SummerIFF), held every August. In 2013, HKIFF introduced the repertory HKIFF Cine Fan Programme to enrich and deepen Hong Kong moviegoers' experience through a monthly programme of contemporary, retrospective, and thematic showcases. In 2021, HKIFFS restructured its film industry services and set up HKIFF Industry to promote and support non-mainstream film industry development through co-production, festival strategies, and overseas distribution (HKIFF Collection).

Official website: www.hkiff.org.hk

Follow us! @HKIFFS

